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The Files

24 September 1957

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AS-3 - Trip Report

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1. General - A visit was made to the [REDACTED] Bonton, New Jersey, on 17 September 1957, in connection with the subject contract. Present for a discussion of the AS-3 development progress were:

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*Part Time - [REDACTED] was called away for a conference with the company president, [REDACTED] had just returned from a 30-days vacation.

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2. Personnel - The company was formally advised that their request for overtime premium pay was not approved. [REDACTED] advised that four engineers were now on the project full time and that the consultant services of [REDACTED] were available. The undersigned is of the opinion that [REDACTED] has little to do with the project while [REDACTED] has been quite active in the project except for his 30-day vacation. [REDACTED] is a new (and quite competent employee) and [REDACTED] was moved over to full time task performance when a second new employee prospect failed to meet [REDACTED] standards for professional talent (i.e., [REDACTED] wouldn't pay the asking salary). However, the project now has adequate assigned personnel.

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3. Progress - The contractor has previously promised to deliver the initial prototype on 31 September - 15 October as required by the contract. It was apparent on this visit that several deficiencies were encountered in engineering tests of the engineering model. Complete engineering tests cannot be accomplished until these defects are rectified. The principal defect concerns the radiated and conducted noise of the motor used to drive the tape cartridge. Problems of a lesser degree include unwanted feedback and poor filtering. The company had phoned earlier with a casual inquiry about the motor used in the TP-3.

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Upon advice that the peak signal taken off the tape cartridge was 20 millivolts and the conducted and radiated noise from the motor being used by [REDACTED] measured several volts, the company was instructed to make immediate tests with the motor contained in the TP-3. Further, the undersigned agreed to provide full procurement data on another motor (the one used in the RS-13B) and will confer with a Chicago fractional horsepower motor firm when in that vicinity on other business. This motor problem must be solved before [REDACTED] can complete engineering tests.

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4. Delivery - The company was asked to make a formal statement regarding the delivery of the first prototype. After considerable discussion and confirmation from [REDACTED] the company stated that they would deliver the first prototype 60 days after the completion of the engineering tests. The undersigned feels that the company with some assistance in the motor problem might have a satisfactory engineering model by 30 October which would result in delivery of the first prototype by 30 December 1957.

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5. The company has made good recent progress in the fabrication of hardware with both engineering model and prototype components were under test. The tape cartridge and coder were not available and it was stated that they were in the model shop being redesigned. [REDACTED] had curve data which indicated a full 30 to 40 watt output following the pi-network and into a 75 ohm load. Other dummy loads were in the process of fabrication.

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6. Controls - [REDACTED] discussed the removal of the recognition and transmission controls as removed from the function switch to simplify operation, as well as wiring, in order to discriminate against instantaneous versus steady state operation. It was agreed that the recognition and transmit functions would be separate button controls.

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7. New Coder - Sufficient data was obtained on the tape cartridge design to provide compatibility for an AN/UGT-1 type permanent magnet coder unit.

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8. Priority - [REDACTED] appears to be really stalled because of the motor problem, and this office, with considerable motor knowledge will assist [REDACTED] on a priority basis to rectify this problem.

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